VICE-PRESIDENT TONY'S UPDATE

18 February 2021

With impeccable timing RC North Balwyn's two most recent meetings managed to bookend the latest Covid restrictions in Victoria – the first of these meetings was on the eve of the lockdown and then we were back in business on Thursday last week.

Our guest speaker last Thursday was Professor Charles Sowerwine who chairs the Heritage Committee of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. His presentation focused on heritage related case studies impacting on buildings and sites in Victoria. The examples he provided ranged from the suburbs (Beaumaris and Essendon) to the controversial demolition of the Corkman Hotel in Carlton and plans to develop the Victoria Market. In the process he provided context for the heritage and cultural issues which we inherit with each generation. An excellent Q&A session followed.

The lockdown last week had some impact on Rotary activity. The Camberwell Sunday Market did not open on the 14th, but planning and work on other programs proceeded. We continue to need support, particularly for the school gardening program and for catering. Imre Lele outlined the upcoming catering program and the opportunities it offers. So please put your hand up and assist where possible.

Greg Matthews reported on the Club's very successful Charity Golf Day. The event raised \$13,162 – an outstanding result in year where our fundraising has been impacted by the pandemic. Well done to everyone concerned.

I was pleased to stand in at the meeting for President Greg Cribbes – he will be back next week.

And remember this year's RI theme: Rotary Opens Opportunities which allow us to get on with what we do well; that is providing service for others and enjoying fellowship.

Tony Wells Vice President